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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT People's Militia

REPORT

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. In August 1953, a confidential circular was issued by the Czechoslovak Communist Party, ordering an intensive enrollment drive for the People's Militia (Lidova milice). It contained instructions to the effect that out of every 12 party members at least two new militia recruits were to be obtained. These were to be selected chiefly from among laborers, but clerical employees were not excluded. 25X1
2. Among the officially published slogans to be displayed on the occasion of the Czechoslovak Army Day on 4 October 1953 was the following: "Members of the People's Militia! Keep your place at the head of the struggle for building Socialism! Be worthy of the great honor of being the armed units of the Party!" This confirms the belief that the People's Militia is under the command neither of the Army nor of the security authorities, but under that of the Secretariat of the Communist Party - in other words, it is a Communist version of the Nazi SS.
3. The Czechoslovak government still considers the Army an instrument of dubious reliability and [] an imminent cut in the Army budget. 25X1
1. [] Comments: From these reports, it appears that of the three armed elements of the Czechoslovak Communist regime, namely, the Army, the National Security forces and the People's Militia, the latter is considered the most reliable and is being reinforced to the detriment of the Army. 25X1

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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